

Please amend the present application as follows:

Claims

The following is a copy of Applicant's claims that identifies language being added with underlining ("___") and language being deleted with strikethrough ("~~—~~"), as is applicable:

1. (Previously presented) A method for operating a disk drive, comprising:

detecting insertion of a disk within the disk drive;

reading contents of the disk; and

automatically storing a copy of the disk contents in a designated location within memory as a back-up version such that a back-up copy of the disk contents is automatically created in response to detected disk insertion.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising automatically storing a new version of data in the designated location when a user stores a new version of data on the disk.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising automatically ejecting the disk during a shut down procedure of the computing device.

4. (Previously presented) A computing device, comprising:
a processing device;
a disk drive; and
memory including a disk back-up controller that is configured to automatically store a copy of contents of a disk in response to the disk being inserted into the disk drive, the disk contents being stored in a designated location within memory.

5. (Previously presented) The computing device of claim 4, wherein the disk back-up controller is further configured to automatically store a new version of data in the designated location when a user stores a new version of data on the disk.

6. (Original) The computing device of claim 4, further comprising an ejection mechanism that is adapted to automatically eject the disk during a shut down procedure of the computing device.

7. (Original) The computing device of claim 4, wherein the disk drive comprises a floppy disk drive.

8. (Original) The computing device of claim 4, wherein the computing device is one of a personal computer, a Macintosh computer, and a notebook computer.

9. (Previously presented) A method for operating a floppy disk drive, comprising:

detecting a shut down procedure of the computing device; and

transmitting an ejection command to the disk drive to cause an ejection mechanism of the disk drive to actuate to eject a floppy disk inserted within the disk drive.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising detecting insertion of a disk within the disk drive and, in response, automatically storing a copy of the disk contents in a designated location within memory as a back-up version.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising automatically storing a new version of data in the designated location when a user stores a new version of data on the disk.

12. (Currently amended) A computing device, comprising:

a processing device; and

a floppy disk drive, the disk drive including an ejection mechanism is configured to actuate to automatically eject a floppy disk contained within the disk drive during shut down procedures of the computing device.

13. (Original) The computing device of claim 12, further comprising memory including a disk ejection controller configured to transmit an ejection command to the disk drive when a shut down procedure is detected.

14. (Previously presented) The computing device of claim 12, further comprising memory including a disk back-up controller configured to automatically store a copy of disk contents in a designated location within memory as a back-up version when insertion of a disk into the disk drive is detected.

15. (Previously presented) The computing device of claim 14, wherein the disk back-up controller is further configured to automatically store a new version of data in the designated location when a user stores a new version of data on the disk.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The computing device of claim 12, wherein the computing device is one of a personal computer, a Macintosh computer, and a notebook computer.

18. (Previously presented) A floppy disk drive for use in a computing device, the disk drive comprising:

an ejection mechanism configured to automatically eject a floppy disk contained within the floppy disk drive during shut down procedures of the computing device.

19. (Original) The disk drive of claim 18, wherein the ejection mechanism comprises electromechanical components that actuate upon application of an appropriate actuation voltage.

20. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising, in response to an attempt to store a file that originated from the disk, first attempting to access source data from the disk and, if the disk has been removed from the drive, accessing the back-up version from the memory.

21. (New) The computing device of claim 4, wherein the disk back-up controller is further configured to, in response to an attempt to store a file that originated from the disk, first attempt to access source data from the disk and, if the disk has been removed from the drive, access the copy from memory of the computing device.

22. (New) The method of claim 10, further comprising, in response to an attempt to store a file that originated from the floppy disk, first attempting to access source data from the floppy disk and, if the floppy disk has been removed from the drive, accessing the back-up version from the memory.

23. (New) The computing device of claim 14, wherein the disk back-up controller is further configured to, in response to an attempt to store a file that originated from the floppy disk, first attempt to access source data from the floppy disk and, if the floppy disk has been removed from the drive, access the copy from memory of the computing device.